



Editorial Communications Canada Limited

2065 Sun Life Building, Montreal 2, P.Q. — 861-9274

YMCA FRENCH DAY CAMPS
HURDLE LANGUAGE BARRIERS

SUBJECT/SUJET

WORD COUNT/NOMBRE DE MOTS 200

FOR/COMMUNIQUE AU NOM DE YMCA OF MONTREAL

FOR PUBLICATION/PUBLIABLE AT WILL

POUR RENSEIGNEMENTS
COMMUNIQUER AVEC
/CONTACT

WILLIAM SHER

Westmount YMCA is preparing to open another breach in the artificial barriers which sometimes stigmatize its community as a bastion of English-speaking insularity.

In doing so, it will also re-test the spreading conviction that children can best be motivated to learn when they are enjoying themselves in a relaxed environment.

Following last year's example by the International YMCA in Montreal's Mile End district, Westmount Branch will this summer operate a French-language day camp.

But there are some significant differences in the objectives of the two camps.

Targets of International Y's program, to be expanded this year, are children of immigrants who speak their parents' native language and have mastered English.

Operating much like any other day camp--but in French only-- it will again use the pool, the gym, arts and crafts, music, magazines and movies to motivate the youngsters to learn a third language so they can participate fully in the activities of their choice.

Unlike school, where children are often indifferent to or resent having to study another language, last year's pilot project at International Y showed they came to consider French as the key to an enjoyable exciting experience.

Westmount Y's camp will operate along similar lines--but for children whose native tongue is English. In addition to whetting their desire to learn French as a living language, it will also attempt to arouse their interest in French culture.

May 13, 1968.